REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-13 and 15-37 under 35 USC §103. Claim 14 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner has indicated that it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The claims have been amended to expedite allowance of the pending claims. Claim 13 has been cancelled. In addition, claim 14 has been amended to include all of the limitations of claims 12 and 13. Claims 15-27 are dependent upon claim 14 and are therefore allowable. In addition, claims 12 and 32 have been amended corresponding to the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. Therefore, claims 32-34 are also allowable. The rejection of claims 1-11, 28-31, and 35-37 are fully traversed below. Claims 1-12 and 14-37 are now pending. The rejections to the claims are fully traversed below.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested based on the following remarks in view of the amended claims.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC §103

Independent claims 1 and 28

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 28, 29, and 35-37 under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over McIntosh, U.S. Patent No. 6,185,576, ('McIntosh' hereinafter), Shisler et al, U.S. Patent No. 2001/0018708, ('Shisler' hereinafter), and Schaefer, U.S. Patent No. 5,826,268, ('Schaefer' hereinafter). This rejection is fully traversed below.

The invention as recited in claim 1, as amended, creates a report. The report created includes security tags associated with pages of the report. In this manner, the invention as recited in claim 1, as amended, enables page-level security to be implemented. None of the references, separately or in combination, enable page-level security to be implemented.

McIntosh discloses a uniform subject classification system. See Title. Specifically, McIntosh discloses an interlingual mechanism to achieve uniformity when classifying anything by subject. Using generic terminology in a hierarchical structure, it directs the user to a single classification. The system captures terms into a thesaurus that can be modified and appended as classification needs change. The system "learns" as synonyms are added to "family groups", capturing differences in individual perception. In addition, the system may be searched by entering a descriptive term, which results in information pertaining to the item. See Abstract. As the Examiner recognizes, McIntosh does not teach or suggest the use the use of security tags in the manner claimed. For instance, McIntosh neither discloses nor suggests "retrieving a data row and associated security information from a data source, the data row having data to be contained in the report," "forming a first security tag from the security information that has been retrieved from the data source if the data row causes a data break," "associating the first security tag with a new page in the report wherein the data row is placed on the new page such that security is implemented at the page level for the new page in the report," or "placing subsequent data rows on pages having the first security tag associated therewith until a second security tag is formed such that data in the report is organized based on a plurality of security tags such that security is implemented at the page level for the pages associated with the plurality of security tags," as recited in claim 1, as amended. For instance, the security information may include one or more security identifiers,

as recited in claim 3.

The Examiner seeks to cure the deficiencies of McIntosh with Shisler and Schaefer. Specifically, Shisler discloses a data processing system that includes client and server computers of various platform types, interconnected by a network. A batch processing engine permits an application resident on a client computer to specify processing to be performed by one or more of the computers connected to the network, regardless of the platform type of such computers. See Abstract. During batch processing, a check is made to determine whether the current level being processed is at a data break. If not, processing returns to fetch another level break specification. If the current level being processed is determined to be at a data break, child processing takes place. See p. 8, par. 0112. Thus, Shisler appears to disclose a standard batch processing engine.

Schaefer discloses a secure multilevel object oriented database management system. See title. Storage and retrieval of objects is controlled by rules based upon the clearance levels to maintain a secure database management system. See col. 3, lines 65-67. Multilevel objects are stored according to security level. See col. 4, lines 42-43. Exemplary security levels include unclassified, classified, secret, and top secret. See col. 4, lines 42-47. Type tags are attached to entity identifiers. See col. 8, lines 53-57. Schaefer does disclose models for handling aggregates, which are object groupings that provide a convenient means of storing and manipulating either ordered or unordered groups of objects. See col. 9, lines 39-64. One example disclosed in Schaefer is that of a dictionary, which may be ordered or unordered. See col. 9, lines 64-65. However, it is important to note that the objects of Schaefer are separately classified and stored. Schaefer neither discloses nor suggests storing a report such that security is implemented at the page level of the report. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that combining the cited references would fail to achieve the desired result, which is to provide security at the page level of a report.

The cited references, separately or in combination, neither disclose nor suggest associating a security tag with a new page in a report wherein the data row is placed on the new page. Moreover, the cited references, separately or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest placing subsequent data rows on pages having the first data tag until a second security tag is formed such that data in the report is organized based on a plurality of security tags. Similarly, the cited references fail to disclose or suggest comparing security

information associated with a user with such security tags in order to ascertain which pages of a report are viewable by the user (e.g., claims 10 and 11).

Since the cited references together fail to disclose each of the claimed elements, the combination of these references also fails to disclose or suggest the claimed invention. Moreover, since the cited references together fail to disclose each of the claimed elements, the combination of the references would fail to achieve the desired result. In addition, it is important to note that there is no motivation to combine the above-cited references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 28 are patentable over the cited art.

The dependent claims depend from one of independent claims 1, 12, 28, and 32 and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons. However, the dependent claims recite additional limitations that further distinguish them from the cited references. Hence, it is submitted that the dependent claims are patentable over the cited art.

Based on the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1, 12, 28, and 32 are patentably distinct from the cited references. In addition, it is submitted that the dependent claims are also patentable for at least the same reasons. The additional limitations recited in the independent claims or the dependent claims are not further discussed as the above discussed limitations are clearly sufficient to distinguish the claimed invention from the cited references. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of the claims under 35 USC §103(a).

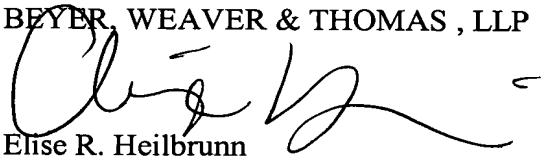
SUMMARY

Reconsideration of the application and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If there are any issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee for such extension or any further fee required in connection with the filing of this Amendment is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0388 (Order No. ACTUP002).

Respectfully submitted,
BEYER, WEAVER & THOMAS , LLP



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